

NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release June 20, 2014

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Vermont Unemployment Rate Holds Steady at 3.3 percent in May

The Vermont Department of Labor announced today that the seasonally-adjusted statewide unemployment rate for May 2014 was 3.3 percent. This represents no change from the previously reported April rate (3.3 percent). The equivalent national average was 6.3 percent, which also held steady from the previous month's estimate. By not declining, May 2014 data ends a streak of seven consecutive months of reported decreases to the statewide unemployment rate in Vermont. As of the prior month's initial data, Vermont's unemployment rate was the second lowest in the country.

Commissioner's Message

"This month's rate was unchanged despite some staff reductions by several companies. The flip side has been increased hiring by some of Vermont's large employers such as GMCR/Keurig, Dealer.com and Cabot Cheese. We note that the state's unemployment rate during the past few summers has reflected brief periods of upward pressure, and then has usually quickly leveled out or reduced. The Department has great programs to reconnect people to the workforce –building up programs and services for dislocated and trade adjusted workers, long-term unemployed, veterans, youth and senior populations. Our local Career Resource office staff are available to connect Vermonters to jobs, training and other resources. We want to ensure that Vermont has opportunities for career and personal growth for all workers and those seeking to enter the workforce", said Commissioner Annie Noonan.

Chart 1. Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted

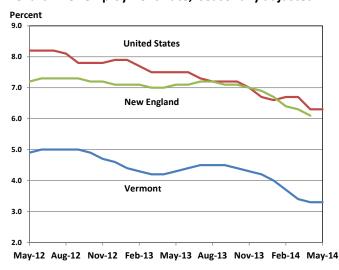
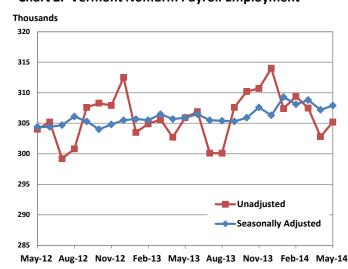


Chart 2. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment



State of Vermont Overview

The Vermont seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged in May with a statewide average of 3.3 percent. The comparable rate for the United States (6.3 percent) was also unchanged from the revised April estimate. The seasonally adjusted Vermont data for May show the Vermont civilian labor force increased by 100 from the prior month estimates. The number of employed increased by 50 and the number of unemployed increased by 50. None of the over-the-month changes to the seasonally-adjusted estimates were statistically significant.

May unemployment rates for Vermont's 17 labor market areas ranged from 2.2 percent in Hartford to 4.4 percent in Newport (note: local labor market area unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted). For comparison, the May unadjusted unemployment rate for Vermont was 3.2 percent which reflects a decrease of five-tenths of a percent from the April level and a decline of nine-tenths of a percent from a year ago

Analysis of Job Changes by Industry

Not Seasonally Adjusted

The preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' jobs estimates for May show an increase of 2,400 jobs when compared to the revised April numbers. This reported over-the-month change does not include the 1,700 job decrease between the preliminary and the revised April estimates due to the inclusion of more data. The monthly increase seen in the May numbers was attributable to seasonal increases related to Construction. The broader economic trends can be detected by focusing on the over-the-year changes in this data series. As detailed in the preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' May data, Total Private industries have increased by 0.4 percent (1,000 jobs) and Government employment has decreased by 2.9 percent (1,700 jobs).

Seasonally Adjusted

The seasonally adjusted data for May reports an increase of 700 jobs from the revised April data. As with the 'not-seasonally-adjusted' data, this over-the-month change is from the revised April numbers which experienced a 1,700 job decrease from the preliminary estimates. The seasonally adjusted over-the-month changes in May were minor at the sectorial level. Those with a notable percent increase include: Construction (+500 jobs or +3.6 percent) and Professional and Business Services (+300 jobs or +1.1 percent). Industries with a notable percent decrease include: State Government (-300 jobs or -1.6 percent) and Other Services (-100 jobs or -1.0 percent).

The Unemployment and Jobs Report for June is scheduled to be released on Friday, July 18, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Table 1. Vermont Labor Force Estimates, seasonally adjusted

				Change	From
	May	April	May	April	May
	2014	2014	2013	2014	2013
Civilian Labor Force	351,250	351,000	351,800	250	-550
Employed	339,700	339,500	336,650	200	3,050
Unemployed	11,550	11,500	15,150	50	-3,600
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.3	3.3	4.3	0.0	-1.0

Vermont's labor force, employment and unemployment statistics are produced from a combination of a Statewide survey of households and statistical modeling. The data are produced by the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS), a cooperative program with the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/lau) and the Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtlmi.info/labforce).

Table 2. Vermont Labor Market Areas, Labor Force Estimates

not seasonally adjusted

		May 2014		Unemployment Rate ² (%)			
Labor Market Area ¹	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	May-14	Apr-14	May-13	
Vermont Total	349,100	337,850	11,300	3.2	3.7	4.1	
Barre-Montpelier	28,950	28,050	950	3.2	3.9	4.1	
Bennington	12,200	11,750	450	3.7	4.3	4.9	
Bradford	4,650	4,500	200	3.9	5.1	4.1	
Brattleboro	23,400	22,600	800	3.5	3.7	4.5	
Burlington-South Burlington	116,050	112,950	3,150	2.7	2.9	3.4	
Hartford	18,150	17,750	400	2.2	2.5	2.8	
Manchester	11,200	10,750	450	3.9	4.3	5.2	
Middlebury	18,250	17,700	550	2.9	3.6	3.7	
Morristown-Stowe	19,900	19,200	700	3.6	5.0	4.5	
Newport	14,300	13,700	650	4.4	6.0	5.7	
Randolph	8,100	7,800	300	3.8	4.1	4.3	
Rutland	25,950	24,850	1,050	4.1	3.9	5.3	
Springfield	11,000	10,550	450	4.2	4.3	5.5	
St. Johnsbury	13,750	13,250	500	3.6	4.6	4.7	
Swanton-Enosburg	13,950	13,550	450	3.1	4.3	4.1	
Warren-Waitsfield	3,850	3,750	100	3.0	2.7	3.4	
Woodstock	3,400	3,300	100	2.8	3.1	3.4	

^{1 -} The area names above are common language titles; for official names of areas including encompassing cities and towns please refer to the Vermont Labor Market Area map (www.vtlmi.info/lma_maptwn.pdf).

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS) produced by the Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtlmi.info/labforce.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/lau).

^{2 -} Rate is the unrounded estimates for the number of unemployed divided by total labor force, expressed as a percent.

Table 3. Vermont Nonfarm Employment, seasonally adjusted (thousands)

NAICS Industry	May-14	Apr-14	14 May-13 Change From:			% Change From:		
NAICS IIIdusti y	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Apr-14	May-13	Apr-14	May-13	
Statewide, Total Nonfarm ¹	307.9	307.2	305.9	0.7	2.0	0.2	0.7	
Total Private	253.1	251.9	251.0	1.2	2.1	0.5	0.8	
Construction	14.3	13.8	14.0	0.5	0.3	3.6	2.1	
Manufacturing	31.5	31.6	32.0	-0.1	-0.5	-0.3	-1.6	
Durable Goods	20.5	20.8	21.5	-0.3	-1.0	-1.4	-4.7	
Non-Durable Goods	11.0	10.8	10.5	0.2	0.5	1.9	4.8	
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	55.9	55.6	55.7	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.4	
Wholesale Trade	9.3	9.2	9.2	0.1	0.1	1.1	1.1	
Retail Trade	38.1	37.8	37.9	0.3	0.2	0.8	0.5	
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	8.5	8.6	8.6	-0.1	-0.1	-1.2	-1.2	
Financial Activities	12.2	12.1	12.1	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.8	
Finance & Insurance	9.1	9.0	9.0	0.1	0.1	1.1	1.1	
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Professional and Business Services	26.7	26.4	26.3	0.3	0.4	1.1	1.5	
Professional & Technical Services	14.4	14.3	14.0	0.1	0.4	0.7	2.9	
Administrative & Waste Services	10.5	10.2	10.5	0.3	0.0	2.9	0.0	
Education and Health Services	62.8	62.6	61.4	0.2	1.4	0.3	2.3	
Private Education Services	13.4	13.1	12.7	0.3	0.7	2.3	5.5	
Health Care & Social Assistance	49.4	49.5	48.7	-0.1	0.7	-0.2	1.4	
Leisure and Hospitality	34.9	34.9	34.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	2.6	
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	4.2	4.0	4.0	0.2	0.2	5.0	5.0	
Accommodation & Food Services	30.7	30.9	30.0	-0.2	0.7	-0.6	2.3	
Other Services	9.7	9.8	10.0	-0.1	-0.3	-1.0	-3.0	
Government	54.8	55.3	54.9	-0.5	-0.1	-0.9	-0.2	
Federal ²	6.7	6.7	6.5	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	
State	18.6	18.9	18.6	-0.3	0.0	-1.6	0.0	
Local	29.5	29.7	29.8	-0.2	-0.3	-0.7	-1.0	
Burlington-S. Burlington Metro (NECTA)								
Total Nonfarm	117.2	117.8	117.8	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5	

^{1 -} Statewide Total Nonfarm is a summed total. Mining & Logging and Information are not published seasonally adjusted because the seasonal component, which is small relative to the trend-cycle and irregular components, cannot be separated with sufficient precision.

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtlmi.info/ces.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/sae).

^{2 -} Federal Government has been added as a seasonally adjusted series in 2013.

Table 4. Vermont Nonfarm Employment, not seasonally adjusted

NAICS Industry	May-14	Apr-14	May-13	Change	From:	% Change	From:
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Apr-14	May-13	Apr-14	May-13
TOTAL NONFARM	305,200	302,800	305,900	2,400	-700	0.8	-0.2
TOTAL PRIVATE	248,900	245,000	247,900	3,900	1,000	1.6	0.4
GOODS-PRODUCING	46,700	44,200	46,900	2,500	-200	5.7	-0.4
MINING & LOGGING	800	700	800	100	0	14.3	0.0
CONSTRUCTION	14,500	12,400	14,200	2,100	300	16.9	2.1
MANUFACTURING	31,400	31,100	31,900	300	-500	1.0	-1.6
Durable Goods	20,500	20,500	21,500	0	-1,000	0.0	-4.7
Computer & Electrical Equipment Mfg.	6,900	7,200	8,000	-300	-1,100	-4.2	-13.8
Fabricated Metal Products Mfg.	2,300	2,300	2,300	0	0	0.0	0.0
Non-Durable Goods	10,900	10,600	10,400	300	500	2.8	4.8
Food Mfg.	5,300	5,200	5,100	100	200	1.9	3.9
SERVICE-PROVIDING	258,500	258,600	259,000	-100	-500	0.0	-0.2
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITES	55,300	54,400	55,200	900	100	1.7	0.2
Wholesale Trade	9,200	9,000	9,100	200	100	2.2	1.1
Retail Trade	37,800	37,100	37,500	700	300	1.9	0.8
Food & Beverage Stores	9,700	9,600	9,700	100	0	1.0	0.0
General Merchandise Stores	3,300	3,300	3,000	0	300	0.0	10.0
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	8,300	8,300	8,600	0	-300	0.0	-3.5
Transportation & Warehousing	6,500	6,500	6,800	0	-300	0.0	-4.4
Utilities	1,800	1,800	1,800	0	0	0.0	0.0
INFORMATION	4,300	4,400	4,700	-100	-400	-2.3	-8.5
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	12,200	12,000	12,100	200	100	1.7	0.8
Finance & Insurance	9,100	9,000	9,000	100	100	1.1	1.1
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	3,100	3,000	3,100	100	0	3.3	0.0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	27,100	26,200	26,800	900	300	3.4	1.1
Professional & Technical Services	14,400	14,500	14,000	-100	400	-0.7	2.9
Administrative & Waste Services	11,000	10,000	10,900	1,000	100	10.0	0.9
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	62,300	62,800	61,300	-500	1,000	-0.8	1.6
Educational Services	13,000	13,500	12,600	-500	400	-3.7	3.2
Colleges and Universities	8,100	8,700	7,700	-600	400	-6.9	5.2
Health Care & Social Assistance	49,300	49,300	48,700	0	600	0.0	1.2
Ambulatory Health Care Services	16,700	16,800	16,100	-100	600	-0.6	3.7
Hospitals	12,900	12,900	13,100	0	-200	0.0	-1.5
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	7,300	7,300	7,300	0	0	0.0	0.0
Social Assistance	12,400	12,300	12,200	100	200	0.8	1.6
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	31,200	31,300	30,900	-100	300	-0.3	1.0
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	4,200	3,500	4,000	700	200	20.0	5.0
Accommodation & Food Services	27,000	27,800	26,900	-800	100	-2.9	0.4
Accommodation	9,000	10,500	8,200	-1,500	800	-14.3	9.8
Hotels & Motels	7,900	9,800	7,300	-1,900	600	-19.4	8.2
Food Services & Drinking Places	18,000	17,300	18,700	700	-700	4.0	-3.7
OTHER SERVICES	9,800	9,700	10,000	100	-200	1.0	-2.0
GOVERNMENT	56,300	57,800	58,000	-1,500	-1,700	-2.6	-2.9
Federal Government	6,700	6,700	6,500	0	200	0.0	3.1
State Government Education	8,100	10,200	10,100	-2,100	-2,000	-20.6	-19.8
Other State Government	9,600	9,500	9,100	100	500	1.1	5.5
Local Government Education	24,700	24,300	25,300	400	-600	1.6	-2.4
Other Local Government	7,200	7,100	7,000	100	200	1.4	2.9

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Divison, Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtlmi.info/ces.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/sae).

Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. See Annual Summary for details.